eVTOL INSIGHTS

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY

February 2026

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For more information, please email Sam Bromley, Sales Manager, eVTOL Insights, at sam@evtolinsights.com

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Welcome

As we settle into 2026, the Advanced Air Mobility market is rapidly transitioning from visionary prototypes to tangible operational progress, underscoring that the next frontier in transportation isn't a distant dream but a rapidly unfolding reality.

Amid these dynamic developments, recognition and visibility matter more than ever. That's why we're reminding companies that the entry deadline to our Global AAM Awards ends at the end of this month (February 27th to be exact). Now in its third year, these awards offer a rare opportunity for companies, teams and individuals to amplify their achievements on the global stage.

Equally compelling is the chance to secure a live video interview slot at this year's Farnborough International Airshow. As one of aerospace's premier global gatherings, the show promises unrivalled exposure and discourse, and eVTOL Insights has limited slots available for AAM-focused organisations eager to share their vision in person.

Additionally, preparations continue to move forward with our North America Conference in Ohio. The preliminary topics have been announced, which I hope will give you an idea of what to expect from our event, which takes place from April 29th to May 1st. Tickets are on sale for $950 and we hope to have some exciting updates in the coming weeks.

This month's edition dives into these breakthroughs and opportunities, helping to chart the AAM sector's accelerating journey. We hope you enjoy this edition and if you'd like to be featured in future publications, please email me (jason@evtolinsights.com)

— Jason Pritchard, Executive Editor, eVTOL Insights

Preliminary Topics Revealed for eVTOL Insights' North America Conference in Ohio

Preliminary discussion topics for eVTOL Insights' North America Conference have now been released, as preparations for its 2026 event in Ohio start to gather pace.

It will take place from April 29th to May 1st at the National Advanced Air Mobility Center of Excellence (NAAMCE), which is based near Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport near Springfield, Ohio.

Among the companies which have confirmed to participate include SkyGrid, EHang, SMG Consulting, NAAMCE, Seraph, Wisk, Vertiport Chicago, Future Flight Global, ANRA Technologies and AeroX.

Topics to be discussed in Ohio (subject to change):
Ohio's Role in Advancing Air Mobility
Industry Readiness: How Close are We to Commercialisation?
China's Low Altitude Economy: Strategy, Scale and Global Implications?
Airspace Integration and ATM/UTM
Electric Propulsion & Battery Development
Building the AAM Workforce of the 2030s
Manufacturing & Supply Chain
Flight Testing: Expectations for 2026
Certification & Regulation

As well as the conference, eVTOL Insights is organising two site visits and also hosting its Global AAM Awards which will celebrate and recognise industry achievements across individual, team and company categories.

Entries are now open and the final date to submit nominations is Friday, February 27th.

Tickets to attend eVTOL Insights' North America Conference are on sale and priced at $950. This includes entry to both the conference and awards, plus the two site visits and networking receptions planned. Student concessions are also on sale for $200. You can buy yours here.

There are still speaking opportunities available and any company interested in participating should email jason@evtolinsights.com

Horizon Aircraft Partners with RAMPF to Manufacture the Fuselage for its Cavorite X7 Aircraft

New Horizon Aircraft Ltd, doing business as Horizon Aircraft, has partnered with RAMPF Composite Solutions to manufacture the fuselage of its Cavorite X7 hybrid-electric aircraft.

With deep experience supporting aerospace and defense customers, RAMPF will manufacture a fuselage for the Cavorite X7 that optimizes its performance by meeting precise requirements for the aircraft.

These requirements include the fuselage being made of lightweight and high-strength composite materials to improve fuel efficiency and durability; designed to withstand harsh conditions, temperature fluctuations, and high-impact forces; and have high structural integrity and precision.

Horizon Aircraft Co-Founder and CEO, Brandon Robinson, said: "RAMPF's industry-leading aerospace composite capabilities make this a critical partnership for us. Seeing fuselage manufacturing underway is incredibly meaningful, and having it built locally in Ontario, Canada is something we are proud of.

"RAMPF's highly experienced team understands the significance of what Horizon Aircraft is working to achieve, and we look forward to bringing the Cavorite X7 to life together."

RAMPF has earned a strong global reputation as a leader in high-performance composite design, engineering, and manufacturing. By combining advanced manufacturing processes with premium composite materials, RAMPF meets the most demanding industry standards.

RAMPF Composite Solutions CEO Larry Fitzgerald, added: "We are very excited to work with Horizon Aircraft on their revolutionary new aircraft, the Cavorite X7. This is the kind of project that professionals across the composites industry truly aspire to work on.

"It will show how lightweight, high-performance composites continue to push the boundaries of engineering and design. It is an honour for RAMPF to collaborate with Horizon on such a game-changing aircraft."

For more information about Horizon Aircraft, please see the Company's website or watch its innovative technology in action on the Company's YouTube channel.

GE Aerospace successfully demonstrates narrowbody hybrid electric engine system in ground test

GE Aerospace has announced a new test milestone for hybrid electric aviation, successfully demonstrating power transfer, extraction and injection in a high-bypass commercial turbofan engine.

Ground testing of a modified Passport engine was completed in 2025 at Peebles Test Operation, as part of NASA's Turbofan Engine Power Extraction Demonstration project. Technical teams advanced understanding of the hybrid electric engine's system integration and controls, beyond just standalone components.

Arjan Hegeman, vice president of future of flight for GE Aerospace, said: "Hybrid electric propulsion is central to how GE Aerospace is redefining the future of flight. Our latest milestone successfully demonstrated a narrowbody hybrid electric engine architecture that doesn't require energy storage to operate.

"It's a critical step to making hybrid electric flight a reality for commercial aviation with technologies that meet customer needs for greater efficiency, durability, and range."

Hybrid electric experience

GE Aerospace is developing a narrowbody hybrid electric architecture that embeds electric motor/generators in a gas turbine engine to supplement power during different phases of operation. The design optimizes performance and creates a system that can work with or without energy storage like batteries.

Testing exceeded NASA's technical performance benchmarks. NASA based these measures on industry input about engine capabilities that would provide meaningful fuel cost savings for U.S. aviation while also meeting the power requirements of future aircraft.

GE Aerospace has achieved multiple hybrid electric milestones over the last decade, including a 2016 ground test of an electric motor-driven propeller. In 2022, GE Aerospace completed the world's first test of a megawatt-class and multi-kilovolt (kV) hybrid electric propulsion system in altitude conditions up to 45,000 feet that simulate single-aisle commercial flight.

A new strategic partnership and equity investment announced in 2025 with BETA technologies plans to develop a hybrid electric turbogenerator for Advanced Air Mobility applications.

RISE program testing

The Power Extraction Demonstration is one of several efforts GE Aerospace has underway to mature technologies for more electric aircraft engines through the CFM International RISE* program.

Unveiled in 2021, the RISE program is one of the aviation industry's most comprehensive technology demonstrators with more than 350 tests and more than 3,000 endurance cycles completed to date, including tests on advanced engine architectures like Open Fan, compact core and hybrid electric systems. The RISE program prioritizes safety, durability and efficiency, targeting more than 20 per cent better fuel burn compared to commercial engines in service today.

CFM RISE program technologies are maturing toward ground and flight tests this decade with work underway on aircraft and engine integration in collaboration with partners.

* Revolutionary Innovation for Sustainable Engines (RISE) is a technology demonstration program of CFM International, a 50–50 joint company between GE Aerospace and Safran Aircraft Engines. It is not a product offered for commercial sale.

Surf Air Mobility, Hawaii Department of Transportation and BETA Technologies to Advance Electric Aviation in Hawaii with eIPP Application

Surf Air Mobility has partnered with the Hawaii Department of Transportation and BETA Technologies on the request for proposal application for the Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing Integration Pilot Program (eIPP).

The company believes its existing operational footprint in Hawaii is an ideal launch market for Advanced Air Mobility. Its airline subsidiary, Mokulele Airlines, is the largest commuter airline in Hawaii by scheduled departures, providing high-frequency interisland service across 10 routes and nine destinations.

With established airport operations, maintenance facilities and crew based across Hawaii, Surf Air Mobility says it has built the foundation to safely and efficiently integrate electric aircraft into existing commercial airline service, an approach that aligns directly with the eIPP Request for Proposal's objectives.

Deanna White, CEO of Surf Air Mobility, said: "As Hawaii's largest commuter airline flying approximately 100 flights daily, we understand the routes and operational realities.

"Our infrastructure is perfectly suited to introduce next-generation aircraft. Participating in the eIPP initiative with BETA would support Hawaii's leadership in advanced air mobility while delivering quieter, lower-emission transportation for communities and visitors."

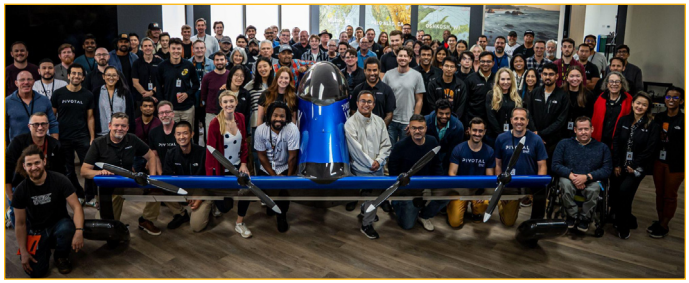
In coordination with HDOT and BETA, Surf Air Mobility would bring together its airline operations, safety culture, SurfOS software, and community connectivity together with BETA's electric aircraft technology, making it an ideal candidate for the eIPP initiative.

BETA's ALIA electric aircraft, designed for short-haul routes like those flown daily by Mokulele Airlines, creating a practical pathway for electrification within Hawaii's existing air transportation system. The entities initially plan to conduct cargo-carrying missions between Mokulele's existing route pairs.

BETA's electric aircraft, ALIA, has flown more than 100,000 nautical miles in real-world operations, generating operational data that supports a disciplined certification-aligned roadmap.

Kristen Costello, Head of Government and Regulatory Affairs at BETA Technologies, said: "Working with Surf Air Mobility and HDOT through the eIPP allows us to demonstrate how electric aircraft can improve access, lower operating costs, and integrate safely into existing airline operations, and deliver real benefits to communities from day one."

Pivotal Secures Major Manufacturing and Safety Milestone with AS9100D Certification



Pivotal has become the first Advanced Air Mobility pure-play eVTOL aircraft manufacturer in North America to earn certification of its Quality Management System (QMS) to the AS9100D Management Standard for aviation, space and defense organizations.

AS9100D certification validates Pivotal's QMS (Quality Management System), which meets or exceeds benchmarks for operational discipline, risk management, supply chain management and manufacturing excellence required to build aircraft.

With the manufacturing ramp of Helix only weeks away, this marks a significant milestone for the aircraft technology manufacturer.

Ken Karklin, CEO of Pivotal, said: "Earning AS9100D certification is a necessary achievement for Pivotal. It reflects the rigor of our processes, the strength of our team, and our unwavering commitment to continuous improvement and world-class quality as we scale production and expand access to the sky through the power of simplified flight."

The achievement was awarded following a comprehensive, multi-site audit of the company's Palo Alto manufacturing facilities, and certification for both AS9100D and ISO9001:2015 were earned through a year-long collaboration with Verify Inc., a Worldwide Quality Services Provider, and issued by the accredited registrar IAOCP Systems Certification Body (SBC).

Aerospace OEMs which possess AS9100D certification employ active risk management in all critical aspects of operations and may receive greater recognition from customers and government regulators such as the EASA, DOD, NASA and the FAA.

Pivotal's QMS is designed to exceed the rigorous requirements of AS9100D. By integrating quality into numerous business functions, Pivotal ensures that safety and customer satisfaction are the responsibility of every employee.

Matt Hubert, Vice President, Quality and MRO, Pivotal, added: "Quality isn't just a standard at Pivotal—it's foundational to everything we do as we manufacture light eVTOL aircraft. Every member of our team understands and proudly owns their role in strengthening our quality management system, supporting safe and reliable operations, and ensuring we deliver aircraft that reflect our commitment to excellence."

AS9100D is the premier international Quality Management System (QMS) standard specifically tailored to the Aviation, Space, and Defense industries. It is built upon the complete framework of ISO 9001:2015, ensuring that an organization meets the same high-level requirements for customer satisfaction and process improvement used by the world's leading businesses.

eVTOL Insights' Global AAM Awards 2026

Enter now!

The 2026 edition follows on from successful ceremonies in Montreal, Canada (2024) and Palo Alto, California (2025). It will be our biggest event to-date.

The 2026 event will take place on Thursday, April 30th, 2026, immediately after eVTOL Insights' North America Conference which is at the National Advanced Air Mobility Center of Excellence (NAAMCE), Springfield-Beckley Airport near Springfield, Ohio, USA.

For 2026, there are now 30 categories to enter. Entries will cost £299 until the final entry deadline of Friday, February 27th, 2026. Judging will begin on Monday, March 1st.

You can enter as many categories as you wish.

Please note: Entries on the platform is limited to 200 words. However, you can send no more than two pages of A4 as part of a supporting statement should you wish. Please ensure it is emailed to jason@evtolinsights before the final deadline and is correctly labelled to avoid confusion.

For any questions regarding the entry process, please email Jason Pritchard, Executive Editor at eVTOL Insights, at jason@evtolinsights.com. Good luck!

Scan the QR code to enter the eVTOL Insights' Global AAM Awards 2026

https://globalaamawards2026.awardsplatform.com/page/XRgQkvzM

Main news - North America

Eve Air Mobility has secured another significant amount of investment of its eVTOL aircraft program, with a $150 million in debt financing from a syndicate of leading financial institutions.

The five-year loan included Itau, Banco do Brasil, Citibank, and Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, which all underscore strong market confidence in Eve's vision and long-term strategy. With this transaction, Eve's total funding now reaches $1.2 billion.

The proceeds will support Eve's research and development, including the integration of its eVTOL aircraft into a comprehensive urban air mobility ecosystem. This funding accelerates technological progress and strengthens partnerships with infrastructure providers and regulatory bodies.

With these resources, the Company added it can advance aircraft certification and commercialisation, ensuring compliance with global aviation standards.

Eduardo Couto, chief financial officer at Eve Air Mobility, said: "This successful debt raise represents a significant milestone for Eve and a strong endorsement of our leadership in shaping the future of urban air mobility.

"The confidence of large banks reinforces our commitment to delivering a fully integrated eVTOL ecosystem. This financing provides long-term resources necessary to accelerate development, advance certification, and execute our strategic roadmap through 2028 and beyond."

The Company recently completed the first flight of its full-scale engineering prototype at Embraer's test facility in Brazil, marking a critical step toward commercialization.

This successful hover validates key systems, including fly-by-wire controls and energy management, and initiates a robust test campaign planned for 2026.

Bristow Group Signs Launch Agreement with Electra to Secure First Delivery Slot for EL9 Aircraft

Electra and Bristow Group have signed a Pre-Delivery Payment (PDP) deposit agreement which secures the first delivery slot for Electra's EL9 Ultra Short hybrid-electric aircraft.

Announced yesterday (Wednesday) the PDP agreement includes option rights for Bristow to another 45 aircraft at the same fixed terms.

Bristow plans to deploy the EL9 across turnkey mobility solutions for corporate customers, premier destinations and resorts, major and regional airlines, and government agencies operating essential public service routes.

Capable of carrying nine passengers with baggage or 3,000lbs of cargo for 330 nautical miles, the EL9 has a maximum ferry range of 1,100 nautical miles with IFR reserves.

Marc Allen, CEO of Electra, said: "Bristow has a long and respected track record of safely operating complex missions in some of the most demanding environments on earth. We are proud to welcome Bristow as an EL9 Launch Customer.

"By reserving five delivery slots in the EL9's first year of production, to include slot one, they have made a powerful statement of confidence in Electra, our EL9 aircraft, and the future of Direct Aviation.

"We could not imagine a stronger or more capable partner to lead the introduction of this transformative mode of advanced air mobility that will give communities, travelers, and airlines access to fast, flexible, and sustainable transportation."

Bristow and Electra have worked together for five years, starting with a pre-order agreement in 2021. The parties have now converted their pre-order LOI into a fixed agreement for five EL9 delivery slots, all to be delivered in the EL9's first year of production.

With more than seven decades of experience operating complex helicopter and fixed-wing missions for corporate and government customers around the world, Bristow has a proven history of integrating next-generation aviation technologies.

The EL9 Ultra Short's ability to take off and land in just 150 feet will allow Bristow to open new transportation options, strengthening airline networks and significantly reducing travel times.

Dave Stepanek, Bristow Executive Vice President, Chief Transformation Officer, said: "Electra's EL9 fundamentally changes what regional air mobility can be. "Its ultra-short performance, quiet operation, and lower operating costs create opportunities that simply do not exist with today's aircraft.

"Securing delivery slot one and reserving delivery slots in the first year of production ensures Bristow will lead this new industry and bring advanced air mobility capabilities to our customers first.

"We are confident that with this order we will extend our legacy of innovation and deliver new levels of access, speed, and sustainability to our customers across the many markets we serve."

Electra's Direct Aviation model uses Ultra Short aircraft to unlock thousands of new Ultra Short access points – including fields, parking lots, and underutilized runways – bringing air travel closer to where people live, work, and play.

By pairing practical infrastructure with transformative capability, Direct Aviation enables trips that were previously impractical or impossible and expands economic opportunity to communities of every size.

Main news - North America

Vertical Aerospace launched its US tour in New York City at the end of January, where it will bring its new commercial electric aircraft Valo to the country for the first time.

It has also revealed plans for electric air taxi routes in The Big Apple with Bristow Group and Skyports Infrastructure.

The tour builds on Valo's unveiling in London in December 2025 and marks the next step in Vertical's global engagement with customers, investors, regulators, and partners ahead of entry into service following regulatory approval currently expected in 2028.

Stuart Simpson, CEO of Vertical Aerospace, said: "The US Valo tour builds on the momentum from our London unveiling and a year of strong execution across testing, partnerships and certification.

"New York is a natural next step to explore how electric aviation could support urban and regional travel in the US, working with partners like Bristow and Skyports to keep safety, certification and real-world operations at the core."

Valo is Vertical's certification-ready aircraft, designed to fly up to 100 miles at speeds of up to 150 mph with zero operating emissions, and engineered to meet airliner-level safety standards.

Valo's premium cabin will launch with four seats, offering panoramic windows, generous personal space and class-leading luggage capacity.

Alongside the U.S. tour, Vertical is working with Bristow and Skyports on a range of future mobility solutions for Valo in the U.S., including routes in and out of Manhattan, New York. The plans will cut multi-hour road journeys to minutes, such as flying from John F. Kennedy (JFK) and other airports to Manhattan.

Use cases being progressed in the New York City area include:

Airport transfers: connections between Downtown Skyport and major regional airports, significantly reducing journey times for travellers, e.g., connecting JFK to Manhattan in minutes

Event travel: game-day access from Downtown Skyport to MetLife Stadium, potentially via established aviation facilities such as Teterboro Airport

Aerial sightseeing and air tours: departing from Downtown Skyport, taking advantage of Valo's large cabin, panoramic windows and quiet, zero-emissions operation

Weekend and leisure travel: connections between Downtown Skyport and East Hampton Airport, supporting premium short-break travel

Cross-town urban transfers: links between Downtown Skyport and heliports such as West 30th Street or East 40th Street, offering a quieter, lower-emissions alternative to conventional helicopters

Emergency Services – medical transfers within New York area, e.g., Westchester County Medical Center to New York University Langone

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Ohio Submits eIPP Proposal to Help Solve Medical Transport Challenge Across Four-State Region

Ohio has submitted a comprehensive proposal to the Federal Aviation Administration's Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing Integration Pilot Program (eIPP) that would deploy operational aircraft within three months of approval to solve critical medical transport challenges across a four-state region.

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), leading a coalition that includes JobsOhio, BETA Technologies, Joby Aviation, NEOEx, and the states of Michigan, Indiana and Kentucky, is offering the FAA a ready-to-launch program backed by more than $1.2 billion in existing AAM infrastructure, certified propeller technology, and a proven multistate coordination framework.

The proposal directly responds to the eIPP objectives outlined in President Trump's Executive Order 14307, Unleashing American Drone Dominance, by demonstrating how advanced air mobility can deliver immediate operational benefits while establishing scalable standards for national deployment.

Ohio's proposal leverages cutting-edge aviation technology to create a faster, smarter, and more dependable alternative to ground and charter transport – solving a national challenge with a proven, scalable model. BETA's electric aircraft would deliver routine and just-in-time medical cargo for DHL Supply Chain between Indianapolis, Columbus and Akron.

Joby began manufacturing propeller blades at its Dayton, Ohio facility, establishing Dayton as the company's long-term hub for blade production.

Joby's propeller blades are central to the aircraft's low acoustic profile and represent a decade of complex engineering, requiring advanced carbon manufacturing processes and highly skilled workforce—both available in Dayton.

The propeller blade production expands Joby's in-house manufacturing of critical conforming components and links operations between California and Ohio to prepare for commercial service at scale.

Ohio will test practical solutions for real-world pain points with this program, utilizing this new aerial technology for high-impact use cases. Often, transport is time-sensitive, which gives these novel aircraft an advantage as they can often take off and land in places traditional aircraft cannot, allowing them to avoid congestion and improve access.

Michigan, Indiana, and Kentucky are formally supporting Ohio's eIPP application, underscoring the importance of a coordinated, multistate approach to AAM.

If Ohio is selected for the FAA's pilot program, flight demonstrations would begin within three months of an agreement being put into place, and routine operations would continue for three years.

Get in front of the camera with eVTOL Insights and secure a live video interview opportunity at this year's Farnborough Airshow.

eVTOL Insights is offering live video interview opportunities at this year's Farnborough International Airshow, providing aerospace and advanced air mobility companies with a powerful platform to share insights, announcements and perspectives directly from one of the industry's most influential global events.

Taking place from July 20th to 24th, eVTOL Insights will conduct and broadcast live, on-site video interviews on the 20th and 21st, which will help exhibitors and participants maximise their presence at the airshow by engaging audiences well beyond the show floor.

Live interviews will usually last between 10 to 12 minutes and can explore the most pressing topics shaping the future of the Advanced Air Mobility market, including certification progress, infrastructure development, propulsion technologies, sustainability, autonomy and emerging commercial strategies.

In addition to live broadcast exposure, each interview will receive amplification across eVTOL Insights' editorial and digital platforms, including written coverage, social media promotion and inclusion in post-event content packages, ensuring continued visibility long after the airshow concludes.

Interview slots are being charged at £999 each and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. The price includes an edited version which can be used to promote on social media for marketing purposes.

Companies interested in participating are encouraged to contact Sam Bromley, Sales Manager at eVTOL Insights. His email is sam@evtolinsights.com.

HORTEN Aircraft Launches Development Program of its NG2 Flying Wing Aircraft as it Targets New Investment

German-based HORTEN Aircraft says it is ready to launch the development program of its HORTEN NG2 – an innovative flying wing aircraft, which is becoming feasible in a relevant market segment for the first time thanks to the new MOSAIC regulation.

Based in Eisenach, located about 150km northeast of Frankfurt, the company is moving forward based on the industry's continued momentum following the FAA's recently renacted MOSAIC regulation in the USA and has a clear mission: to bring flying wings to General Aviation.

HORTEN is targeting investors and strategic partners with an international campaign. The aim is to raise global awareness of the program's potential and innovative strength, and to specifically reach out to those eager to shape the future of General Aviation.

Dr. Hanns-Walter Schulz, Managing Director, Strategy & Operations, HORTEN Aircraft GmbH, said: "We've spent years carefully planning every detail – from market analysis to product definition, from engineering to production. This is not just an idea – it is a clearly structured path to success.

"Now is the right time to take the step into series development together with strong partners"

Building on its historical cooperation with Reimar Horten and decades of experience in the field of flying wing technology, HORTEN has demonstrated technical feasibility with the successful HX-2 demonstrator. With the NG2, HORTEN aims to establish itself as a new premium player in General Aviation, driven by true German engineering.

It is only the recently enacted MOSAIC regulation in the USA that creates the conditions for an aircraft as advanced as the HORTEN NG2 with convincing performance, advanced features and premium comfort to be approved in an attractive market segment of General Aviation.

With this in mind, HORTEN says it is seizing this market opportunity, leveraging decades of flying wing expertise to develop the NG2. The abbreviation "NG" stands for 'Next Generation' and marks the technological leap in the long history of flying wings, which is so closely associated with the name Horten.

The development of the HORTEN NG2 builds directly on the successful HX-2 demonstrator. The data gathered during HX-2's flight testing enabled HORTEN to significantly reduce key technical risks even before launching the NG2 program.

Volatus Aerospace and Dufour Aerospace Deepen Partnership to Develop Runway-Independent Cargo Capabilities

Volatus Aerospace has shared more progress of its partnership with Dufour Aerospace, as the companies work towards the deployment of runway-independent cargo capabilities aligned with Arctic, defence and commercial operating requirements.

Since announcing the partnership in February 2025, Volatus and Dufour have advanced their collaboration from initial alignment toward capability development, with a focus on operational readiness.

The partnership is centered on adapting Dufour's hybrid eVTOL aircraft into a runway-independent, medium payload cargo capability suitable for austere, remote, and infrastructure-limited environments.

of this progress, a dedicated simulator has been installed at Volatus' facility in Toronto, Canada. The simulator is being used to train Volatus pilots and to support the development of a customer-facing training and evaluation platform.

This capability is intended to enable operational concept development, mission rehearsal, and training in support of both government and commercial use cases, and to integrate the aircraft into Volatus' broader operational capabilities offering.

Glen Lynch, Chief Executive Officer of Volatus Aerospace, said: "The focus of our work with Dufour Aerospace is on building operational capability, not promoting individual performance metrics.

"Governments and commercial operators alike are increasingly looking for reliable, runway-independent cargo solutions that can operate in remote and challenging environments. This partnership allows us to apply our operational, regulatory, and training expertise to help shape such a capability."

The collaboration continues to prioritize three interrelated capability areas:

- Arctic and Remote Operations – Applying Volatus' experience in cold-weather and northern operating environments to support platform adaptation, mission design, and operational concepts suitable for Arctic and other austere regions
- Military and Government Logistics Support – Evaluating the platform's applicability for defence and public-sector resupply missions where runway access is limited or unavailable, with an emphasis on logistics resilience and operational flexibility
- Commercial Applications –Assessing commercial opportunities in sectors such as critical infrastructure support, remote industrial operations, and emergency response, where runway-independent logistics can complement existing aviation solutions

Volatus emphasized that the partnership remains focused on evaluation, training, and capability development. Any future decisions regarding operational deployment, or manufacturing participation will be subject to further assessment, regulatory considerations, and applicable approvals.


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AeroGulf Services to purchase 20 of SkyDrive's SD-05 eVTOL Aircraft for Dubai Service planned for 2028

SkyDrive has reached a general understanding with AeroGulf Services Company LLC regarding the potential purchase of 20 of its SD-05 eVTOL aircraft, with 10 units to be purchased in 2028 and the final 10 in 2029.

This agreement represents SkyDrive's first detailed exploration of commercial parameters with a customer outside Japan, while AeroGulf Service is dedicated to advancing a new tourism venture which utilizes environmentally conscious, next-generation mobility.

Following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in February 2025 to assess commercial flight paths above the renowned Palm Jumeirah in Dubai, the two companies subsequently agreed on a pre-order for as many as 50 aircraft.

The delivery of eVTOL aircraft is aimed to support the specific timeline for the commercialization of AeroGulf's eVTOL services in Dubai, starting in 2028.

Tomohiro Fukuzawa, Founder/CEO, SkyDrive, said: "Reaching a general understanding on commercial parameters for up to 20 SkyDriveaircraft with AeroGulf Services, Dubai's premier helicopter charter operator, is a significant step toward global commercialization and a source of great inspiration for our team.

"This important milestone underscores the Middle East's role as a criticalstrategic hub in realizing SkyDrive's vision of everyday air mobility.By establishing a framework that addresses both pricing and delivery considerations for 2028 and 2029, our transition from development to operations grows closer.

He added: "The focus on the iconic Palm Jumeirah will demonstrate how eVTOL technology cantransform tourism and urban mobility. Through our manufacturing partnership with Suzuki Motor Corporation, we are committed to delivering safe, high-quality aircraft. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with AeroGulf Services as we work toward advancing Dubai's position at the forefront of sustainable aviation."

This partnership also puts AeroGulf Services, Dubai's premier helicopter charter operator, in a position to pioneer advanced air mobility in the Middle East, offering clients access to cutting-edge, zero-emission aviation technology.

The company is dedicated to advancing a new tourism venture that utilizes environmentally conscious, next-generation mobility.

Following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in February 2025 to assess commercial flight paths above the renowned Palm Jumeirah in Dubai, the two companies subsequently agreed on a pre-order for as many as 50 aircraft.

Elroy Air and Barq Group in Joint Venture to Invest $200 million in New Facility to Produce Chaparral VTOL UAS

Barq Group and Elroy Air have announced an initial agreement for a joint venture which will invest $200 million to build a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Abu Dhabi to produce Chaparral, Elroy Air's autonomous hybrid-electric vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) cargo UAS.

This production facility will supply Chaparral systems to commercial and humanitarian customers in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region upon receipt of all necessary approvals.

The joint venture will also provide aftermarket services, including maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO). By establishing local production capacity, the JV will meet the surging demand for autonomous logistics in a region characterized by rapid expansion and a need for resilient, middle-mile delivery solutions.

Ahmed AlMazrui, CEO of Barq Group, said: "Our partnership with Elroy Air is a testament to Abu Dhabi's position as a global leader in the future of mobility. This $200 million investment is more than a manufacturing agreement; it is a commitment to building a self-sustaining aerospace ecosystem in the UAE.

"The massive demand we are seeing from logistics providers across MENA makes it clear that local production is the only way to scale effectively. Together, we are redefining how goods move across the region while supporting the 'Make it in the Emirates' initiative."

The Chaparral is an industry-first autonomous aircraft built to carry 300 lbs of cargo over a 300 mile range. Its hybrid-electric powertrain enables long-range missions without the need for charging infrastructure, making it uniquely suited for the MENA region's diverse geography. Chaparral made history in November 2023 with the world's first flight of a turbogenerator-hybrid-electric aircraft.

The new venture aligns with Abu Dhabi's Smart and Autonomous Vehicle Industry (SAVI) cluster objectives, solidifying the emirate's position as a global leader in sustainable transportation.

The partnership is expected to contribute significantly to the local economy through the creation of high-value aerospace jobs and the development of a robust regional supply chain.

Calidus Holding Group, Hameem Technologies and Aergility have announced a strategic partnership to develop and produce the ALRASID and ALTARESH unmanned VTOL aircraft, which has been designed for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) and logistics missions.

Enabled by unmanned air transport, the aircraft will provide a reliable capability for supply and payload delivery, enhancing operational continuity and improving the efficiency of field support, with production taking place at Calidus' facilities in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

Dr. Khalifa Murad Alblooshi, Managing Director and CEO of Calidus Holding Group said: "This partnership reflects the Group's leadership as a fully integrated defence and manufacturing company while underscoring the strength of the UAE's industrial ecosystem.

"By aligning strategic investment, local production, and breakthrough innovation, we are not only showcasing advanced platforms but also demonstrating our ability to deliver sovereign capabilities at scale, developed and manufactured in the UAE to the highest global standards — in line with the wise leadership's vision for advancing national defence industries."

Calidus Holding Group was founded in 2015 and is headquartered in Abu Dhabi, UAE. With a focus on delivering next-generation cutting-edge solutions tailored to defence and security markets across its three clusters – Aerospace, Land Systems and Missiles and Defence Systems. Calidus designs, engineers, and produces advanced platforms that enhance mobility, protection, and mission eJectiveness across diverse operational environments.

ALTARESH is the mid-size VTOL platform with the scalable technology capable of carrying up to 500lbs more than 500 miles, making it ideal for long-range autonomous logistics and operational support. ALRASID is a compact prototype designed for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions, providing persistent, flexible aerial coverage in demanding environments.

The models are scalable to mission depth: contested logistics, ISR, critical resupply, disaster response, and medical support, amongst others. All models can be configured with additional sensors, communications, edge autonomy and AI systems, in line with the company's commitment to aircraft with simple operation and cost-effective through-life support.

Hameem Technologies LLC is a company, based in Abu Dhabi, dedicated to advancing scientific and technical breakthroughs in multiple domains through strategic investment and targeted partnerships. This is in line with Hameem's mandate to support the advancement of the UAE's national industry.

AeroVecto Aviation Services and Vigelon in Partnership to Strengthen eVTOL and Aviation Maintenance in Oman

AeroVecto Aviation Services (AVAS), the aviation services arm of AeroVecto, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Vigelon, which will see the company serve as Vigelon's local partner in Oman.

As part of the agreement, which was announced earlier this week, AVAS will distribute and support Vigelon's software solutions for eVTOL and air operators across the country.

Additionally, the partnership marks a significant step in strengthening Oman's Advanced Air Mobility ecosystem, aligning with the national vision for sustainable urban transport and innovation.

Fahad Al Riyami, CEO of AVAS, said: "This partnership represents more than a distribution agreement, it's about building the foundation for safe, efficient, and sustainable eVTOL operations in Oman. By combining Vigelon's innovative technology with our local expertise, we are positioning Oman as a leader in advanced air mobility services."

Vigelon is a Canadian-based company developing AI-powered predictive maintenance and fleet management software for advanced air mobility.

Its platform delivers fleet intelligence, maintenance automation, and compliance-ready workflows to improve aircraft uptime, safety, and operational scalability across advanced air mobility programs.

Vigelon works with operators, OEMs and MROs to turn flight and maintenance data into actionable operational insight.

Its partnership with AVAS will also provide operators access to innovative maintenance tools, while it works closely with regulators to align with national standards. Both companies see this collaboration as a foundation for future opportunities, including integration with AeroVecto's Shuttle platform.

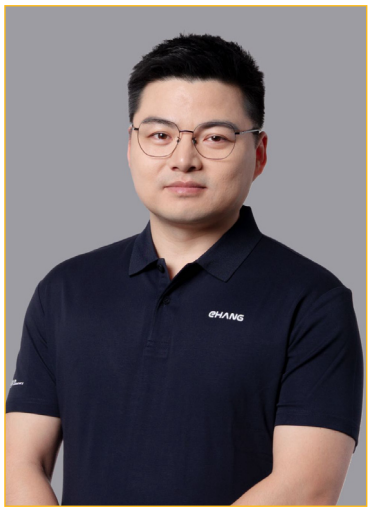
Ali Taleb, CEO of Vigelon, added: "We are excited to partner with AeroVecto Aviation Services, whose vision and commitment to innovation align closely with our own. Together, we will deliver revolutionary maintenance solutions that support operators and regulators in shaping the future of air mobility in the region."

SkyCrest Aviation (operating as AeroVecto) is an Omani aerospace company developing Shuttle, a hybrid-electric aircraft built to redefine urban public transport, enhancing intracity transport with comfort, safety, and accessibility in mind. The company's Aviation Services division aims to support the integration of advanced air mobility in Oman and the region.

Shuai Feng appointed as EHang's Chief Technology Officer as Company Enters New Phase of Commercialisation

EHang has appointed Shuai Feng as the company's Chief Technology Officer, with the company saying his appointment represents a key milestone in its technology strategy.

Building on the solid foundation established through years of direct leadership over technology development by the Company's Founder, Chairman, and Chief Executive Officer Mr. Huazhi Hu, EHang is advancing its technology management framework toward systematic innovation and industrial implementation.



Mr. Feng joined EHang in July 2014 as a core member of the founding team. Under Mr. Hu's strategic guidance and technical philosophy, he has played a critical role in and led the development of, multiple pilotless human-carrying eVTOL products, including the EH184, the EH216□S, and the VT35, as well as the GD series aerial formation UAVs.

In addition, as the Company has entered a new phase of commercialization, and in alignment with Mr. Hu's full-industry-chain integration strategy, Mr. Feng has in recent years taken on key responsibilities in building EHang's procurement and supply chain management systems.

By strengthening upstream and downstream coordination, enhancing productization efficiency, and advancing deep industry-chain integration and regional ecosystem development, he has significantly enhanced EHang's capabilities for key components R&D and scaled manufacturing.

Currently, Mr. Feng also serves as the Company's Compliance Officer, continuously upholding EHang's development principles of "safety, compliance, innovation, and sustainability" through his cross-functional leadership roles.

Shuai Feng said: "I have witnessed EHang's journey from early innovation to commercial deployment under Mr. Hu's technology-driven strategy, and have gained a deep understanding of the Company's core technical philosophy and long-term vision.

"Looking ahead, I will continue to take Mr. Hu's technology principles as my guide, strictly adhere to the Company's established technology strategy, and work closely with the team to integrate technology development with manufacturing and quality control.

He added: "I am committed to improving execution and production efficiency, further supporting the Company's continued technology innovation and industrial implementation with a strong sense of responsibility."

Skyportz CEO says India will be Key Region for Electric Air Taxis, following publication of its own vertiport market study

Skyportz has released a new analysis where it identifies Delhi, India as a critical global market for electric air taxi deployment.

The company has produced a document, called The Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Vertiport Market Study, which suggests India can develop into one of the world's largest passenger air taxi markets over the next two decades.

Skyportz's modelling indicates the enormous possibilities of AAM in Delhi and India more broadly, and forecasts the potential for:

- Around 40 million passenger trips per year in Delhi by 2045, and 200–250 million across India
- Approximately US$400 million in annual passenger revenues in Delhi by 2045, with an indicative extrapolation to about US$2.0–2.5 billion in annual passenger revenues across India by 2045
- About 10,000 to 15,000 vertipads across India by 2045 (indicative), anchored on a Delhi requirement of around 2,200 vertipads

Skyportz's modelling shows that as air taxi costs fall, urban commuter services and intercity routes become increasingly competitive, accelerating demand for infrastructure distributed throughout the metropolitan area rather than concentrated at a small number of hubs.

The report contends that Delhi's position as a major AAM market in 2045 is driven by a number of factors, including:

The long average commute distances and low peak-hour travel speeds, which make the time savings of air taxi travel significant.

- The high reliance on road-based transport, which means alternatives are less readily available and air taxi services can displace higher commuter volumes.
- The growing wealth of Delhi (and Indian) residents and higher proportion of residents who could afford air taxi services over time
- The relatively low costs operating costs of air taxi services, with both lower capital requirements to establish networks and lower ongoing costs compared to other major cities

Skyportz's Aeroberm™ modular vertipad system is designed to support network-scale deployment in high-density cities such as Delhi. The system is intended to enable:

- Rapid installation of ground-level and rooftop vertipads
- Management of downwash safety, noise and operational performance
- Incremental expansion from dozens to hundreds, and ultimately thousands, of pads as aircraft fleets grow

Later this year, *eVTOL Insights* will publish two further Special Reports which will shine a spotlight on the people shaping the future of Advanced Air Mobility.

Designed to inform, inspire and provoke discussion across the global industry, these reports go beyond headlines to deliver insight, analysis and perspective you won't find elsewhere.

The **Women in AAM Special Report** will be published in **July,** which will celebrate the incredible women driving progress across eVTOL manufacturing, infrastructure, regulation, investment, operations and technology.

Later in the year, **Ones to Watch**, published in **December,**, will turn its focus to the individuals, companies and ideas set to define the next phase of AAM. This forward-looking report will identify emerging leaders, disruptive startups, breakthrough technologies and pivotal projects that are gaining momentum beneath the surface.

Together, these Special Reports reinforce *eVTOL Insights'* commitment to thoughtful, independent journalism and deep sector knowledge.

Keep an eye out later this year as *eVTOL Insights* continues to tell the stories shaping the future of flight.

Self-nominations will be accepted, and all you need to do is send an email to jason@evtolinsights.com with the following information:

- Full name, job title and company of the person being nominated
- Which Special Report the nomination should be considered for
- A suitable headshot picture
- Company logo (optional)
- A summary of the job role and why you/they should be included

We are also selling A4 adverts for any company interested in wanting exposure and awareness.

For more information, please email Sam Bromley, Sales Manager at eVTOL Insights (sam@evtolinsights.com)

eVTOL INSIGHTS

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY

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